

Abstract

2 A hardware pay-per-use system and corresponding method allow computer system
3 operators to tailor their hardware utilization to more closely match changing customer
4 demands. The hardware pay-per-use system includes one or more hardware products and
5 a metering mechanism coupled to at least one of the hardware products. The metering
6 mechanism includes a hardware device separate from the hardware products. The
7 metering mechanism acquires metrics data from the hardware products, the metrics data
8 related to an operation at the hardware products. The metering mechanism determines
9 data to report on the operation of the hardware products. A usage repository coupled to
10 the metering mechanism receives the determined data and generates usage reports related
11 to the operation of the hardware products.